

Message Text

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PAGE 01 QUITO 06059 252321Z

21

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01

SAB-01 IO-13 /072 W

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R 252241Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY QUITO

TO AMEMBASSY PANAMA

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1296

AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

C O N F I D E N T I A L QUITO 6059

E.O. 7?652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MILI, PN, EC

SUBJECT: PANAMANIAN TREATY TEAM BRIEFS GOE OFFICIALS

REF: PANAMA 5019, PANAMA 5739

1. QUIT PAPERS REPORTED AUGUST 25 THAT THE PANAMANIAN TREATY TEAM HAD ARRIVED IN QUITO AUGUST 23 AND BRIEFED GOE OFFICIALS AUGUST 24. TEAM WAS SCHEDULED TO RETURN TO PANAMA AUGUST 25. PAPERS LISTED FOLLOWING MEMBERS OF THE DELEGATION: ANTONIO TACK, EX-MINISTER OF FOREIGN RELATIONS; DR. CARLOS ALFREDO LOPEZ GUEVARA, EX-MINISTER OF FOREIGN RELATIONS AND TREATY NEGOTIATOR; DR. ROMULO BETANCOURT, EX-RECTOR OF THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY AND ADVISOR TO THE CHIEF OF GOVERNMENT; EDWIN FEBREGA, MINISTER OF ENERGY; AND EDWIN MOLINA, UNIDENTIFIED.

2. THE DELEGATION CALLED ON THE SUPREME GOVERNING COUNCIL MEMBERS ADMIRAL ALFREDO POVEDA AND BG LUIS LEORO, AND CONDUCTED A BRIEFING FOR FOREIGN MINISTER ARMANDO PESANTES, MINISTER OF DEFENSE GEN. (R) ANDRES ARRATA, AND HIGH OFFICIALS OF THE ARMED FORCES COMMAND AND THE FOREIGN MINISTRY.

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3. COMMENT: PANAMANIAN AMBASSADOR SAMUEL G. FABREGA

TOLD AMBASSADOR AUGUST 25 THAT MAIN TARGET OF THE PANAMANIAN GROUP WAS THE ECUADOREAN MILITARY. THEIR PRESENTATION WAS INTENDED TO ASSURE THE GOE THAT PANAMA DOES NOT INTEND TO IMPAIR THE DEFENSE OF THE CANAL UNDER ANY NEW TREATY ARRANGEMENT AND THAT THEIR AIM IS NOT IMMEDIATE REMOVAL OF U.S. DEFENSE INSTALLATIONS IN THE CANAL ZONE. AMBASSADOR FABREGA DID NOT MENTION THE SUBJECT OF CANAL TOLLS, WHICH IS PRESENTLY A MATTER OF MAJOR CONCERN TO ECUADOR AND OTHER WEST COAST LATIN AMERICAN STATES. EMBASSY ATTEMPTING TO OBTAIN MORE DETAIL ON SUBSTANCE OF PANAMANIAN PRESENTATION AND WILL KEEP EMBASSY PANAMA AND DEPARTMENT INFORMED.
BLOOMFIELD

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NNN

Message Attributes

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